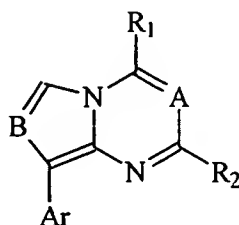


CLAIMS

1. A compound having the following structure:



including stereoisomers and pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof, wherein:

A and B are selected from CR and N;

R is selected from hydrogen and C₁₋₆alkyl;

R₁ is NR₃R₄;

R₂ is C₁₋₆alkyl;

R₃ is selected from hydrogen, C₁₋₆alkyl, mono- or di(C₃₋₆cycloalkyl)methyl, C₃₋₆cycloalkyl; C₃₋₆alkenyl; hydroxyC₁₋₆alkyl, C₁₋₆alkylcarbonyloxyC₁₋₆alkyl and C₁₋₆alkyloxyC₁₋₆alkyl;

R₄ is selected from C₁₋₆alkyl, mono- or di(C₃₋₆cycloalkyl)methyl, Ar¹CH₂, C₃₋₆alkenyl, C₁₋₆alkyloxyC₁₋₆alkyl, hydroxyC₁₋₆alkyl, thienylmethyl, furanymethyl, C₁₋₆alkylthioC₁₋₆alkyl, morpholinyl, mono- or di(C₁₋₆alkyl)aminoC₁₋₆alkyl, di(C₁₋₆alkyl)amino, C₁₋₆alkylcarbonylC₁₋₆alkyl, C₁₋₆alkyl substituted with imidazolyl; or a radical of the formula - (C₁₋₆alkanediyl)-O-CO-Ar¹;

or R₃ and R₄ taken together with the nitrogen atom to which they are attached form a pyrrolidinyl, piperidinyl, homopiperidinyl or morpholinyl group, optionally substituted with C₁₋₆alkyl or C₁₋₆alkyloxy;

Ar is selected from phenyl substituted with 1, 2 or 3 substituents independently selected from halo, C₁₋₆alkyl, trifluoromethyl, cyano, C₁₋₆alkyloxy, benzyloxy, C₁₋₆alkylthio, nitro, amino and mono- and di(C₁₋₆alkyl)amino; and pyridinyl substituted with 1, 2 or 3 substituents independently selected from halo, C₁₋₆alkyl, trifluoromethyl, hydroxy, cyano, C₁₋₆alkyloxy, benzyloxy, C₁₋₆alkylthio, nitro, amino, mono- and di(C₁₋₆alkyl)amino and piperidinyl; and

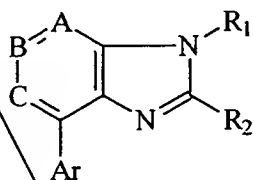
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Ar¹ is selected from phenyl, pyridinyl, and phenyl substituted with 1, 2 or 3 substituents independently selected from halo, C₁₋₆alkyl, C₁₋₆alkyloxy, di(C₁₋₆alkyl)amino, C₁₋₆alkyl, trifluoromethyl and C₁₋₆alkyl substituted with morpholinyl.

2. A method for treating a disorder manifesting hypersecretion of CRF in a warm-blooded animal, comprising administering to the animal an effective amount of a compound of claim 1.

3. The method of claim 2 wherein the disorder is stroke.

4. A compound having the following structure:



including stereoisomers and pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof, wherein:

A, B and C are selected from CR and N, with the proviso that when B is N both A and C are CR;

R is selected from hydrogen and C₁₋₆alkyl;

R₁ is selected from NR₃R₄ and R₅;

R₂ is C₁₋₆alkyl;

R₃ is selected from hydrogen, C₁₋₆alkyl, mono- or di(C₃₋₆cycloalkyl)methyl, C₃₋₆cycloalkyl; C₃₋₆alkenyl; hydroxyC₁₋₆alkyl, C₁₋₆alkylcarbonyloxyC₁₋₆alkyl and C₁₋₆alkyloxyC₁₋₆alkyl;

R₄ and R₅ are independently selected from C₁₋₈alkyl, mono- or di(C₃₋₆cycloalkyl)methyl, Ar¹CH₂, C₃₋₆alkenyl, C₁₋₆alkyloxyC₁₋₆alkyl, hydroxyC₁₋₆alkyl, thienylmethyl, furanylmethyl, C₁₋₆alkylthioC₁₋₆alkyl, morpholinyl, mono- or di(C₁₋₆alkyl)aminoC₁₋₆alkyl, di(C₁₋₆alkyl)amino, C₁₋₆alkylcarbonylC₁₋₆alkyl, C₁₋₆alkyl substituted with imidazolyl; or a radical of the formula -(C₁₋₆alkanediyl)-O-CO-Ar¹;

or R_3 and R_4 taken together with the nitrogen atom to which they are attached form a pyrrolidinyl, piperidinyl, homopiperidinyl or morpholinyl group, optionally substituted with C_{1-6} alkyl or C_{1-6} alkyloxy;

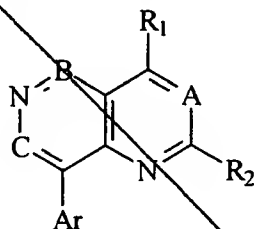
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Ar is selected from phenyl substituted with 1, 2 or 3 substituents independently selected from halo, C_{1-6} alkyl, trifluoromethyl, cyano, C_{1-6} alkyloxy, benzyloxy, C_{1-6} alkylthio, nitro, amino and mono- and di(C_{1-6} alkyl)amino; and pyridinyl substituted with 1, 2 or 3 substituents independently selected from halo, C_{1-6} alkyl, trifluoromethyl, hydroxy, cyano, C_{1-6} alkyloxy, benzyloxy, C_{1-6} alkylthio, nitro, amino, mono- and di(C_{1-6} alkyl)amino and piperidinyl; and

Ar¹ is selected from phenyl, pyridinyl, and phenyl substituted with 1, 2 or 3 substituents independently selected from halo, C_{1-6} alkyl, C_{1-6} alkyloxy, di(C_{1-6} alkyl)amino, C_{1-6} alkyl, trifluoromethyl and C_{1-6} alkyl substituted with morpholinyl.

5. A method for treating a disorder manifesting hypersecretion of CRF in a warm-blooded animal, comprising administering to the animal an effective amount of a compound of claim 4.

6. The method of claim 14 wherein the disorder is stroke.

7. A compound having the following structure:



including stereoisomers and pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof, wherein:

A, B and C are selected from CR and N, with the proviso that one, and only one, of B and C is N;

R is selected from hydrogen and C_{1-6} alkyl;

R_1 is NR_3R_4 ;

R_2 is C_{1-6} alkyl;

R_3 is selected from hydrogen, C_{1-6} alkyl, mono- or di(C_{3-6} cycloalkyl)methyl, C_{3-6} cycloalkyl; C_{3-6} alkenyl; hydroxy C_{1-6} alkyl, C_{1-6} alkylcarbonyloxy C_{1-6} alkyl and C_{1-6} alkyloxy C_{1-6} alkyl;

R_4 is selected from C_{1-8} alkyl, mono- or di(C_{3-6} cycloalkyl)methyl, Ar^1CH_2 , C_{3-6} alkenyl, C_{1-6} alkyloxy C_{1-6} alkyl, hydroxy C_{1-6} alkyl, thienylmethyl, furanylmethyl, C_{1-6} alkylthio C_{1-6} alkyl, morpholinyl, mono- or di(C_{1-6} alkyl)amino C_{1-6} alkyl, di(C_{1-6} alkyl)amino, C_{1-6} alkylcarbonyl C_{1-6} alkyl, C_{1-6} alkyl substituted with imidazolyl; or a radical of the formula - (C_{1-6} alkanediyl)-O-CO- Ar^1 ;

or R_3 and R_4 taken together with the nitrogen atom to which they are attached form a pyrrolidinyl, piperidinyl, homopiperidinyl or morpholinyl group, optionally substituted with C_{1-6} alkyl or C_{1-6} alkyloxy;

Ar is selected from phenyl substituted with 1, 2 or 3 substituents independently selected from halo, C_{1-6} alkyl, trifluoromethyl, cyano, C_{1-6} alkyloxy, benzyloxy, C_{1-6} alkylthio, nitro, amino and mono- and di(C_{1-6} alkyl)amino; and pyridinyl substituted with 1, 2 or 3 substituents independently selected from halo, C_{1-6} alkyl, trifluoromethyl, hydroxy, cyano, C_{1-6} alkyloxy, benzyloxy, C_{1-6} alkylthio, nitro, amino, mono- and di(C_{1-6} alkyl)amino and piperidinyl; and

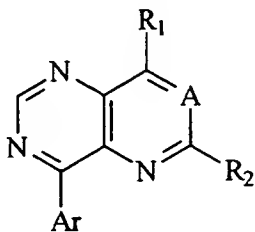
Ar^1 is selected from phenyl, pyridinyl, and phenyl substituted with 1, 2 or 3 substituents independently selected from halo, C_{1-6} alkyl, C_{1-6} alkyloxy, di(C_{1-6} alkyl)amino C_{1-6} alkyl, trifluoromethyl and C_{1-6} alkyl substituted with morpholinyl.

8. A method for treating a disorder manifesting hypersecretion of CRF in a warm-blooded animal, comprising administering to the animal an effective amount of a compound of claim 7.

9. The method of claim 8 wherein the disorder is stroke.

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10. A compound having the following structure:



including stereoisomers and pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof, wherein:

A is selected from CR and N;

R is selected from hydrogen and C₁₋₆alkyl;

R₁ is NR₃R₄;

R₂ is C₁₋₆alkyl;

R₃ is selected from hydrogen, C₁₋₆alkyl, mono- or di(C₃₋₆cycloalkyl)methyl, C₃₋₆cycloalkyl; C₃₋₆alkenyl; hydroxyC₁₋₆alkyl, C₁₋₆alkylcarbonyloxyC₁₋₆alkyl and C₁₋₆alkyloxyC₁₋₆alkyl;

R₄ is selected from C₁₋₈alkyl, mono- or di(C₃₋₆cycloalkyl)methyl, Ar¹CH₂, C₃₋₆alkenyl, C₁₋₆alkyloxyC₁₋₆alkyl, hydroxyC₁₋₆alkyl, thienylmethyl, furanymethyl, C₁₋₆alkylthioC₁₋₆alkyl, morpholinyl, mono- or di(C₁₋₆alkyl)aminoC₁₋₆alkyl, di(C₁₋₆alkyl)amino, C₁₋₆alkylcarbonylC₁₋₆alkyl, C₁₋₆alkyl substituted with imidazolyl; or a radical of the formula - (C₁₋₆alkanediyl)-O-CO-Ar¹;

or R₃ and R₄ taken together with the nitrogen atom to which they are attached form a pyrrolidinyl, piperidinyl, homopiperidinyl or morpholinyl group, optionally substituted with C₁₋₆alkyl or C₁₋₆alkyloxy;

Ar is selected from phenyl substituted with 1, 2 or 3 substituents independently selected from halo, C₁₋₆alkyl, trifluoromethyl, cyano, C₁₋₆alkyloxy, benzyloxy, C₁₋₆alkylthio, nitro, amino and mono- and di(C₁₋₆alkyl)amino; and pyridinyl substituted with 1, 2 or 3 substituents independently selected from halo, C₁₋₆alkyl, trifluoromethyl, hydroxy, cyano, C₁₋₆alkyloxy, benzyloxy, C₁₋₆alkylthio, nitro, amino, mono- and di(C₁₋₆alkyl)amino and piperidinyl; and

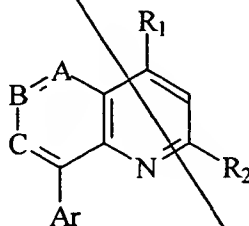
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Ar¹ is selected from phenyl, pyridinyl, and phenyl substituted with 1, 2 or 3 substituents independently selected from halo, C₁₋₆alkyl, C₁₋₆alkyloxy, di(C₁₋₆alkyl)amino, C₁₋₆alkyl, trifluoromethyl and C₁₋₆alkyl substituted with morpholinyl.

11. A method for treating a disorder manifesting hypersecretion of CRF in a warm-blooded animal, comprising administering to the animal an effective amount of a compound of claim 10.

12. The method of claim 11 wherein the disorder is stroke.

13. A compound having the following structure:



including stereoisomers and pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof, wherein:

A, B and C are selected from CR and N, with the proviso that one, and only one, of B, C and D is N;

R is selected from hydrogen and C₁₋₆alkyl;

R₁ is NR₃R₄;

R₂ is C₁₋₆alkyl;

R₃ is selected from hydrogen, C₁₋₆alkyl, mono- or di(C₃₋₆cycloalkyl)methyl, C₃₋₆cycloalkyl; C₃₋₆alkenyl; hydroxyC₁₋₆alkyl, C₁₋₆alkylcarbonyloxyC₁₋₆alkyl and C₁₋₆alkyloxyC₁₋₆alkyl;

R₄ is selected from C₁₋₆alkyl, mono- or di(C₃₋₆cycloalkyl)methyl, Ar¹CH₂, C₃₋₆alkenyl, C₁₋₆alkyloxyC₁₋₆alkyl, hydroxyC₁₋₆alkyl, thienylmethyl, furanylmethyl, C₁₋₆alkylthioC₁₋₆alkyl, morpholinyl, mono- or di(C₁₋₆alkyl)aminoC₁₋₆alkyl, di(C₁₋₆alkyl)amino,

C_{1-6} alkylcarbonyl C_{1-6} alkyl, C_{1-6} alkyl substituted with imidazolyl; or a radical of the formula -
(C_{1-6} alkanedyl)-O-CO-Ar¹;

or R₃ and R₄ taken together with the nitrogen atom to which they are attached form a pyrrolidinyl, piperidinyl, homopiperidinyl or morpholinyl group, optionally substituted with C_{1-6} alkyl or C_{1-6} alkyloxy;

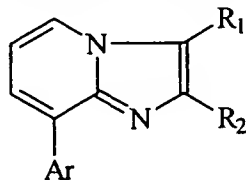
Ar is selected from phenyl substituted with 1, 2 or 3 substituents independently selected from halo, C_{1-6} alkyl, trifluoromethyl, cyano, C_{1-6} alkyloxy, benzyloxy, C_{1-6} alkylthio, nitro, amino and mono- and di(C_{1-6} alkyl)amino; and pyridinyl substituted with 1, 2 or 3 substituents independently selected from halo, C_{1-6} alkyl, trifluoromethyl, hydroxy, cyano, C_{1-6} alkyloxy, benzyloxy, C_{1-6} alkylthio, nitro, amino, mono- and di(C_{1-6} alkyl)amino and piperidinyl; and

Ar¹ is selected from phenyl, pyridinyl, and phenyl substituted with 1, 2 or 3 substituents independently selected from halo, C_{1-6} alkyl, C_{1-6} alkyloxy, di(C_{1-6} alkyl)amino, C_{1-6} alkyl, trifluoromethyl and C_{1-6} alkyl substituted with morpholinyl.

14. A method for treating a disorder manifesting hypersecretion of CRF in a warm-blooded animal, comprising administering to the animal an effective amount of a compound of claim 13.

15. The method of claim 14 wherein the disorder is stroke.

16. A compound having the following structure:



including stereoisomers and pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof, wherein:

R₁ is selected from NR₃R₄ and R₅;

R₂ is C_{1-6} alkyl;

R_3 is selected from hydrogen, C_{1-6} alkyl, mono- or di(C_{3-6} cycloalkyl)methyl, C_{3-6} cycloalkyl; C_{3-6} alkenyl; hydroxy C_{1-6} alkyl, C_{1-6} alkylcarbonyloxy C_{1-6} alkyl and C_{1-6} alkyloxy C_{1-6} alkyl;

R_4 and R_5 are independently selected from C_{1-8} alkyl, mono- or di(C_{3-6} cycloalkyl)methyl, Ar^1CH_2 , C_{3-6} alkenyl, C_{1-6} alkyloxy C_{1-6} alkyl, hydroxy C_{1-6} alkyl, thienylmethyl, furanymethyl, C_{1-6} alkylthio C_{1-6} alkyl, morpholinyl, mono- or di(C_{1-6} alkyl)amino C_{1-6} alkyl, di(C_{1-6} alkyl)amino, C_{1-6} alkylcarbonyl C_{1-6} alkyl, C_{1-6} alkyl substituted with imidazolyl; or a radical of the formula $-(C_{1-6}alkanediyl)-O-CO-Ar^1$;

or R_3 and R_4 taken together with the nitrogen atom to which they are attached form a pyrrolidinyl, piperidinyl, homopiperidinyl or morpholinyl group, optionally substituted with C_{1-6} alkyl or C_{1-6} alkyloxy;

Ar is selected from phenyl substituted with 1, 2 or 3 substituents independently selected from halo, C_{1-6} alkyl, trifluoromethyl, cyano, C_{1-6} alkyloxy, benzyloxy, C_{1-6} alkylthio, nitro, amino and mono- and di(C_{1-6} alkyl)amino; and pyridinyl substituted with 1, 2 or 3 substituents independently selected from halo, C_{1-6} alkyl, trifluoromethyl, hydroxy, cyano, C_{1-6} alkyloxy, benzyloxy, C_{1-6} alkylthio, nitro, amino, mono- and di(C_{1-6} alkyl)amino and piperidinyl; and

Ar^1 is selected from phenyl, pyridinyl, and phenyl substituted with 1, 2 or 3 substituents independently selected from halo, C_{1-6} alkyl, C_{1-6} alkyloxy, di(C_{1-6} alkyl)amino C_{1-6} alkyl, trifluoromethyl and C_{1-6} alkyl substituted with morpholinyl.

17. A method for treating a disorder manifesting hypersecretion of CRF in a warm-blooded animal, comprising administering to the animal an effective amount of a compound of claim 16.

18. The method of claim 17 wherein the disorder is stroke.

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